Appl. No. 09/827,141 Amdt. dated April 5, 2004 Reply to Office action of November 5, 2003

Amendments to the specification

Please amend the title as follows:

MULTI-PASS TUNABLE OPTICAL SPECTRUM ANALYZER FILTER USING HAVING A POLARIZATION-DEPENDENT TUNABLE FILTER ELEMENT; AND MULTI-PASS OPTICS THEREFOR

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8 as follows:

The invention relates to tunable optical filters, and especially to tunable optical filters suitable for use in optical analyzers. The invention also relates to optical analyzers per se comprising a tunable optical filter and to multi-pass optics for passing a light beam repeatedly through an optical element, such as an the angle-tunable the tunable optical filter.

Please delete the two paragraphs beginning at page 3, line 10 and ending at page 3, line 22 and insert the following paragraph:

In accordance with the present invention, there is provided an optical spectrum analyzer apparatus comprising:

an inherently polarization-sensitive tunable filter element;

polarization-maintaining optical means for defining paths whereby a light beam is directed to traverse the polarization-sensitive tunable filter element a prodetermined number of times; [[and]]

a polarization control module for receiving input light for analysis, decomposing the received input light into its ordinary and extraordinary components to produce first and second light beams having respective mutually orthogonal linear states of polarization, and applying the first and second light beams to the tunable filter element by way of the optical means with their states of polarization parallel to each other and to one of the principal axes of the tunable filter element,

means for adjusting the tunable filter element to select different wavelengths of the input light; and

means for detecting the first and second light beams leaving the tunable filter element and detecting energy at each of said different wavelengths,

wherein the polarization control module comprises means for rotating the state of polarization of at least one of the first and second light beams relative to the state of polarization of the other of the first and second light beams before application to the tunable filter element, said rotating means comprising at least one polarization-maintaining fiber.

Delete the two paragraphs beginning at page 3, line 34 and ending at page 4, line 13.